UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/CONF.171/PC/2
4 February 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT
Third session
4-22 April 1994
Item 3 of the provisional agenda*

ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTIONS: REPORTS OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES, CONFERENCES AND RELATED QUESTIONS

Progress report on the preparations for the International Conference on Population and Development

Report of the Secretary-General of the Conference

SUMMARY

The present report has been prepared in response to Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/93, in which the Council requested the Secretary-General of the International Conference on Population and Development to report to it at its substantive sessions of 1992, 1993 and 1994 on the progress made in all aspects of the preparatory activities for the Conference. It supplements the two previous progress reports of the Secretary-General of the Conference to the Economic and Social Council (E/1992/60 and E/1993/49) and to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session (A/48/430).

* A/CONF.171/PC/1.

CONTENTS

		Paragraphs	Page
INTRODUCTION		1 - 3	3
I.	ACTION TAKEN ON THE CONFERENCE BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS FORTY-EIGHTH SESSION	4 - 10	3
II.	RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS ON THE CONFERENCE ADOPTED BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AT ITS SUBSTANTIVE SESSION OF 1993	11 - 14	4
III.	SECOND SESSION OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE CONFERENCE	15 - 20	5
IV.	PREPARATION OF THE PRINCIPAL DOCUMENTS OF THE CONFERENCE	21 - 28	6
	A. Draft of the final document of the Conference	21 - 26	6
	B. Report on the review and appraisal of the World Population Plan of Action	27 - 28	7
V.	EXPERT GROUP MEETINGS, ROUND-TABLE MEETINGS AND INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS	29 - 34	7
	A. Expert group meetings	29 - 30	7
	B. Round-table meetings	31 - 33	8
	C. Informal consultations	34	8
VI.	REGIONAL AND SUBREGIONAL ACTIVITIES	35 - 42	8
VII.	UNITED NATIONS INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION	43 - 49	10
VIII.	NATIONAL ACTIVITIES	50 - 52	11
IX.	PARTICIPATION OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS	53 - 58	11
X.	DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION	59 - 61	12
XI.	FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS AND STATUS OF FUNDING FOR THE CONFERENCE	62 - 66	13

INTRODUCTION

1. The Economic and Social Council, in resolution 1989/91, decided to convene in 1994, under the auspices of the United Nations, an international meeting on population. Subsequently, in resolution 1991/93, the Council decided to call the meeting the International Conference on Population and Development and further defined the objectives and theme of the Conference. The Council, in resolution 1992/37, accepted with gratitude the offer of the Government of Egypt to host the Conference in Cairo, from 5 to 13 September 1994.

2. The present progress report supplements two previous reports of the Secretary-General of the Conference to the Economic and Social Council (E/1992/60 and E/1993/49) as well as a progress report to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session (A/48/430). Those reports were prepared in response to Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/93 and General Assembly resolution 47/176.

3. Under the overall theme of "population, sustained economic growth and sustainable development", the Conference will examine population and related issues and their implications for social and economic development. The Conference will seek to adopt a new programme of action that places population at the centre of sustainable development activities.

I. ACTION TAKEN ON THE CONFERENCE BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS FORTY-EIGHTH SESSION

4. The debate on the International Conference on Population and Development took place in the Second Committee of the General Assembly on 4 and 5 November 1993. The General Assembly had before it the progress report on the preparations for the Conference (A/48/430) and the accompanying annotated outline of the final document of the Conference (A/48/430/Add.1). Dr. Nafis Sadik, Secretary-General of the Conference, addressed the Committee on 4 November and at the close of debate on 5 November. Forty-two Member States, several of whom spoke on behalf of regional groups, the observers from Switzerland and the Holy See and the representatives of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the World Bank, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the NGO Planning Committee for the Conference also addressed the Committee.

5. In commenting on the annotated outline, delegations emphasized: the need to maintain the centrality of population issues in the final document of the Conference; the need for action-oriented, clear and concise recommendations and implementable activities; the need to keep the interests and rights of the individual central in all population and development efforts; freedom of choice in all population programmes and the importance of empowering women in society; the mutual responsibilities of developed and developing countries in population and environment issues and the need to pay more attention to consumption patterns and lifestyles; the need to strengthen the chapters on women and on follow-up to the Conference and the three sections on indigenous people, children and youth, and adolescents the need to better define the role of

non-governmental organizations; the need to reflect the perspectives and needs of countries in transition; and the priority to be given to means of implementation. These and other comments of delegations have guided the Secretary-General of the Conference in the preparation of the draft of the final document of the Conference.

6. The General Assembly, in resolution 48/186, endorsed fully Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/76 (see para. 11). It decided that the Preparatory Committee for the Conference should become a subsidiary body of the General Assembly, without prejudice to current arrangements for participation in the Conference and its preparatory process. It also requested the Secretary-General of the Conference, in preparing the draft of the final document of the Conference, to be guided by the views expressed by delegations and groups of delegations on the annotated outline, including those expressed at the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly.

7. In the same resolution, the General Assembly, in recognition of the importance to the preparations for the Conference of the regional and subregional population conferences, requested the Secretary-General of the Conference to submit to the Preparatory Committee at its third session a report synthesizing the results of those conferences. That report has been prepared and is contained in document A/CONF.171/PC/7.

8. The General Assembly further requested the Secretary-General of the Conference to convene, within existing resources, informal consultations at United Nations Headquarters in the period prior to the third session of the Preparatory Committee, in preparation for negotiations on the draft of the final document of the Conference.

9. The General Assembly also reaffirmed the importance of the participation in and contributions to the preparatory process and the Conference itself of non-governmental organizations in accordance with the relevant provisions of Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/4, and emphasized the particular importance of immediate action in widely publicizing the objectives of the Conference and the issues to be discussed at it.

10. The General Assembly also decided to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session an item entitled "Report of the International Conference on Population and Development".

II. RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS ON THE CONFERENCE ADOPTED BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AT ITS SUBSTANTIVE SESSION OF 1993

11. At the recommendation of the Preparatory Committee at its second session, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 1993/76 in which it decided to extend the third session of the Preparatory Committee by one week, to take place at United Nations Headquarters from 4 to 22 April 1994. It also decided to convene pre-Conference consultations on 3 and 4 September 1994, at the venue of the Conference.

12. In the same resolution, the Council requested the Secretary-General of the Conference to prepare, by February 1994, for the information of delegations, the first draft of the final substantive document of the Conference, taking into account the views expressed by participants during the second session of the Preparatory Committee and the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly. That draft has been prepared and is contained in document A/CONF.171/PC/5.

13. The Council, in the same resolution, also recommended that the Preparatory Committee for the Conference become a subsidiary body of the General Assembly, without prejudice to current arrangements for participation in the Conference and its preparatory process.

14. The Council also adopted the three draft decisions on the Conference proposed by the Preparatory Committee at its second session - namely: decision 1993/323, "Proposed conceptual framework of the draft recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development"; decision 1993/324, "Participation of associate members of the regional commissions in the International Conference on Population and Development and its preparatory process"; and decision 1993/325, "Report of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Population and Development on its second session and provisional agenda and documentation for the third session of the Preparatory Committee".

III. SECOND SESSION OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE CONFERENCE

15. The second session of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference was held at United Nations Headquarters from 10 to 21 May 1993. Over 150 Governments, a large number of organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations and several hundred non-governmental organizations were represented at the session.

16. The Preparatory Committee elected its bureau, which will serve throughout the remainder of the preparatory process. A list of the membership of the bureau is contained in the report of the Preparatory Committee on its second session (E/1993/69) and in the progress report of the Secretary-General of the Conference to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session (A/48/430).

17. The Preparatory Committee considered the reports and recommendations of the six expert group meetings and the five regional population conferences held as part of the preparations for the Conference. Delegates reached agreement on the structure and format of the final document of the Conference and expressed their views on specific issues to be included in the document.

18. As mentioned in paragraphs 11-14 above, the Preparatory Committee adopted a draft resolution on the Conference which was subsequently adopted by the Economic and Social Council as resolution 1993/76. It also adopted three draft decisions which were later also adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session for 1993.

19. The Preparatory Committee accredited to the Conference and its preparatory process the 332 non-governmental organizations proposed by the Conference secretariat in document E/CONF.84/PC/10 and Add.1-3.

20. In response to Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/76, the report of the Preparatory Committee on its second session, which is contained in document E/1993/69, was submitted, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session in a note by the Secretary-General (A/48/492).

IV. PREPARATION OF THE PRINCIPAL DOCUMENTS OF THE CONFERENCE

A. Draft of the final document of the Conference

21. The Economic and Social Council, in resolution 1993/76, requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in collaboration with the Secretary-General of the Conference, to include in the progress report on the Conference to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session an annotated outline of the draft of the final document of the Conference. The outline, contained in document A/48/430/Add.1, was an intermediate step between the conceptual framework of the draft recommendations of the Conference (E/CONF.84/PC/11) and the draft of the final document of the Conference (A/CONF.171/PC/5). The annotated outline enabled Member States to monitor the progress of substantive preparations and contributed to the process of consensus-building for the Conference programme of action.

22. As mentioned in paragraph 4 above, the annotated outline was discussed by the Second Committee of the General Assembly on 4 and 5 November 1993. The speakers were generally in agreement on the structure of the outline, and many praised the way in which the Secretariat had balanced the many views put forward by the Preparatory Committee.

23. In response to Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/76, which was endorsed fully by the General Assembly in resolution 48/186, the draft of the final document of the Conference (A/CONF.171/PC/5) was made available to delegations by February 1994, so as to allow for a thorough review of the document prior to the third session of the Preparatory Committee.

24. In preparing the draft of the final document of the Conference, careful account was taken of the following: the conceptual framework of the draft recommendations of the Conference (E/CONF.84/PC/11); the Chairman's summary concerning the conceptual framework, contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council decision 1993/323; the annotated outline of the final document of the Conference, contained in A/48/430/Add.1; the reports and recommendations of the six expert group meetings (E/CONF.84/PC/4-9) and of the regional population conferences (E/CONF.84/PC/13-17); and the results of the fourth review and appraisal of the World Population Plan of Action (A/CONF.171/PC/3).

25. Also taken into account were the views of delegations and other participants at the first and second sessions of the Preparatory Committee, at the 1992 and 1993 substantive sessions of the Economic and Social Council and at

the forty-seventh and forty-eighth sessions of the General Assembly; the reports and recommendations of the subregional population conferences, round-table meetings and other meetings convened in preparation for the Conference; informal consultations with Governments; and substantive comments and suggestions of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

26. The draft of the final document of the Conference (A/CONF.171/PC/5) will be the focus of discussion of the Preparatory Committee at its third session.

B. Report on the review and appraisal of the World Population Plan of Action

27. The Economic and Social Council, in resolution 1991/93, decided that one of the objectives of the 1994 Conference should be "to contribute to the review and appraisal of the progress made in reaching the objectives, goals and recommendations of the World Population Plan of Action and to identify the obstacles encountered". The Plan of Action, adopted at the World Population Conference at Bucharest in 1974, recommended that a comprehensive and thorough review and appraisal of progress made towards achieving the goals and recommendations of the Plan of Action be undertaken every five years by the United Nations system. The current exercise follows those carried out in 1979, 1984 and 1989.

28. The report, contained in document A/CONF.171/PC/3, covers all areas of the World Population Plan of Action, focusing particularly on a set of 30 issues selected as a result of various consultations, including a discussion with members of an inter-agency task force established for the 1994 Conference by the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC). Under the arrangements established by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to ensure system-wide participation in the exercise, the Population Division of the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis of the United Nations Secretariat is responsible for preparing the report, in collaboration with the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies. The report will be presented to the Preparatory Committee at its third session and to the Conference.

V. EXPERT GROUP MEETINGS, ROUND-TABLE MEETINGS AND INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS

A. Expert group meetings

29. The Economic and Social Council, in resolution 1991/93, authorized the Secretary-General of the Conference to convene six expert group meetings on issues which it identified as requiring the greatest attention during the forthcoming decade. The following expert group meetings were convened: Population, Environment and Development (New York, 20-24 January 1992); Population Policies and Programmes (Cairo, 12-16 April 1992); Population and Women (Gaborone, Botswana, 22-26 June 1992); Family Planning, Health and Family Well-being (Bangalore, India, 26-29 October 1992); Population Growth and

Demographic Structure (Paris, 16-20 November 1992); and Population Distribution and Migration (Santa Cruz, Bolivia, 18-22 January 1993).

30. The reports and recommendations of the expert group meetings (E/CONF.84/PC/4-9), as well as a report synthesizing their results (E/CONF.84/PC/12), were made available to the Preparatory Committee at its second session and made important contributions to the preparation of the draft of the final document.

B. Round-table meetings

31. As a follow-up to the six expert group meetings convened as part of the substantive preparations for the Conference, a number of Governments and organizations have co-hosted round-table meetings on topics relevant to the Conference. The following round-table meetings have taken place: Women's Perspectives on Family Planning, Reproductive Health and Reproductive Rights (Ottawa, 26-27 August 1993); Population Policies, Programmes and HIV/AIDS (Berlin, 28 September-1 October 1993); Population and Development Strategies (Bangkok, 17-19 November 1993); Population, Environment and Sustainable Development in the post-UNCED Period (Geneva, 24-26 November 1993); Population and Communication (Vienna, 2-3 December 1993); and Population and Food in the Early Twenty-first Century: Meeting Future Food Needs of an Increasing World Population (Washington, D.C., 14-16 February 1994).

32. In addition, a meeting of eminent persons on population and development was held in Tokyo from 26 to 27 January 1994 in preparation for the Conference. The meeting was jointly organized by the Government of Japan and the United Nations University.

33. The recommendations of the round-table meetings, which will be made available to the Preparatory Committee at its third session, were of great value in the preparation of the draft of the final document of the Conference.

C. Informal consultations with Governments

34. In response to General Assembly resolution 48/186, the Secretary-General of the Conference has scheduled, within existing resources, informal consultations at United Nations Headquarters during February and March 1994. The purpose of the informal consultations is to exchange views in preparation for negotiations on the draft of the final document of the Conference.

VI. REGIONAL AND SUBREGIONAL ACTIVITIES

35. General Assembly resolution 47/176 stressed the importance of regional perspectives on population and development issues and welcomed the convening of population conferences by the United Nations regional commissions and UNFPA. Five regional conferences were held in preparation for the Conference: the Fourth Asian and Pacific Population Conference (Denpasar, Indonesia, 19-27 August 1992); the Third African Population Conference (Dakar,

7-12 December 1992); the European Population Conference (Geneva, 23-26 March 1993); the Arab Population Conference (Amman, 4-8 April 1993); and the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Conference on Population and Development, Mexico City (29 April-4 May 1993). The results of those conferences were made available to the Preparatory Committee at its second session (E/CONF.84/PC/13-17).

36. As a follow-up to the regional conferences, several subregional conferences have been held. Following the Arab Population Conference in April 1993, the Maghreb countries (Algeria, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia) held a conference in Tunis from 7 to 10 July 1993 on population and development issues. The Conference adopted the Tunis Plan of Action on Population and Development in the Arab Maghreb, which was made available to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session by the Government of Tunisia in document A/C.2/48/7.

37. The South Pacific Ministerial Meeting on Population and Sustainable Development was held in Port Vila, Vanuatu, from 6 to 10 September 1993. The Meeting discussed subregional population and development issues and adopted the Port Vila Declaration on Population and Sustainable Development. The Declaration was made available to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session by the Government of the Marshall Islands in document A/C.2/48/3.

38. The Ministerial Meeting on Population of the Non-Aligned Movement was held in Bali, Indonesia, from 9 to 13 November 1993. The Meeting adopted the Denpasar Declaration on Population, a statement of issues and recommendations for the International Conference on Population and Development and a statement of support for South/South collaboration in the field of population and family planning. These were made available to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session by the Chairman of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement (A/48/746, annexes I-III).

39. The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), in cooperation with UNFPA, organized a Ministerial Conference on Women and Family Health, which was held in Kathmandu, Nepal, from 21 to 23 November 1993, as part of the region's preparation for the Conference.

40. The Andean countries (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela) held a meeting in Lima, Peru, from 1 to 3 December 1993, to discuss their positions on population and development. The meeting, which was organized by the Government of Peru, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and UNFPA, adopted the Andean Declaration on Population and Development.

41. The Caribbean Meeting of Experts for a Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development was held at Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, from 2 to 3 December 1993. The Meeting, which was organized by ECLAC and UNFPA, agreed upon the Port of Spain Draft Declaration on Population and Sustainable Development. The Draft Declaration will be considered by the Caribbean Development Coordinating Committee at its fifteenth session in March 1994.

42. In recognition of the importance of regional and subregional preparations for the Conference and in accordance with General Assembly resolution 48/186,

the Secretary-General of the Conference will submit to the Preparatory Committee at its third session a report synthesizing the results of the regional and subregional meetings and conferences (A/CONF.171/PC/7).

VII. UNITED NATIONS INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION

43. The Economic and Social Council, in resolution 1991/93, requested the Secretary-General of the Conference to make use of the substantive contributions of all organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system concerned to the preparatory activities of the Conference. Subsequent to that resolution, in October 1991 the Administrative Committee on Coordination established the Ad Hoc Inter-agency Task Force for the International Conference on Population and Development to ensure United Nations inter-agency coordination and participation.

44. In addition to the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis of the United Nations Secretariat and UNFPA, 19 units, programmes and organizations of the United Nations system have designated focal points for the Conference.

45. The ACC Ad Hoc Inter-agency Task Force held an informal meeting in January 1992 and formal meetings in July 1992 and 1993, in conjunction with the substantive sessions of the Economic and Social Council.

46. At its second meeting in Geneva, on 13 July 1993, the Inter-agency Task Force reviewed the status of the preparatory activities for the Conference. Particular attention was paid to the results of the second session of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference. In addition, the Task Force discussed the contributions of the various units, programmes and organizations of the United Nations system to the preparation of the report on the review and appraisal of the World Population Plan of Action. The Secretary-General of the Conference also invited members of the Task Force to prepare contributions for the proposed programme of action that would be adopted by the Conference. The third meeting of the Task Force is scheduled to take place during the 1994 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council.

47. The General Assembly, in resolution 47/176, welcomed the decision of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to ensure the necessary coordination of contributions within the United Nations system through the Administrative Committee on Coordination and called upon all organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to contribute fully to the preparations for the Conference.

48. Several United Nations organizations have actively participated in meetings to discuss goals and resource requirements for inclusion in the draft of the final document of the Conference and have indicated their interest in submitting background papers to the Conference. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) have each seconded a staff member to the Conference secretariat; UNICEF is also funding one Professional post in the Conference secretariat.

49. In addition to the above, an interdepartmental working group for the Conference, composed of relevant departments or offices in the United Nations Secretariat, meets regularly to discuss organizational preparations for the Conference.

VIII. NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

50. In order to encourage maximum national participation in the Conference and its preparatory process, the Secretary-General of the Conference invited all countries to establish national committees to serve as focal points for national preparatory activities. To date, more than 100 countries have established such committees.

51. The primary task of the national committees has been to coordinate the preparation of the national reports on population. The committees have also organized public-awareness initiatives, such as seminars and workshops on Conference-related topics. Guidelines for the preparation of the national reports were provided to Governments by the Conference secretariat. To date, a total of 96 national reports have been received. A synthesis of the national reports will be submitted to the Preparatory Committee at its third session as document A/CONF.171/PC/4; it will also be made available to the Conference.

52. At their request, 103 countries, including a majority of the least developed countries, have received a total of US$ 853,755 in funding for national-level activities through the UNFPA Trust Fund for the Conference. Funds have been used primarily to assist in the preparation of the national reports and to organize consultative meetings and seminars on population and development issues.

IX. PARTICIPATION OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

53. The General Assembly, in resolution 47/176, stressed the importance that it attached to the participation of relevant non-governmental organizations from developing and developed countries in the Conference and its preparatory process. In that same resolution, it requested the Economic and Social Council, at its organizational session of 1993, to formulate and adopt modalities to ensure the participation of and contribution to the Conference and its preparatory process of relevant non-governmental organizations - in particular, of those from developing countries.

54. In resolution 1993/4, the Economic and Social Council established criteria for the accreditation of non-governmental organizations to the Conference and its preparatory process and decided that the secretariat of the Conference would be responsible for the receipt and preliminary evaluation of requests for accreditation.

55. Interest in the Conference and its preparatory process on the part of non-governmental organizations has grown steadily. Intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations have been represented at each of the expert group meetings, regional and subregional population conferences, round-table meetings,

and at the sessions of the Preparatory Committee. At the second session of the Preparatory Committee, 332 non-governmental organizations, listed in document E/CONF.84/PC/10 and Add.1-3, received accreditation in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/4. In addition, 69 non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council expressed interest in participating in the Conference and its preparatory process. Approximately 400 representatives of accredited non-governmental organizations attended the second session of the Preparatory Committee.

56. Since the second session of the Preparatory Committee, several hundred additional non-governmental organizations have sought accreditation. A list of those organizations appears in the annex to document A/CONF.171/PC/6.

57. The General Assembly, in resolution 48/186, reaffirmed the importance of the participation in and contribution to the Conference and its preparatory process of non-governmental organizations in accordance with the relevant provisions of Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/4. The Secretary-General of the Conference has encouraged Member States to include representatives of national non-governmental organizations in their delegations to sessions of the Preparatory Committee as well as to the Conference.

58. The NGO Planning Committee for the International Conference on Population and Development was established in 1991 to coordinate and facilitate the participation of non-governmental organizations in the Conference and its preparatory process. It is organizing an NGO Forum which will take place concurrently with the Conference. Several thousand representatives of non-governmental organizations are expected to attend.

X. DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION

59. One of the objectives of the Conference, as defined in Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/93, is to maintain and strengthen the level of awareness of population issues on the international agenda and their linkage to development. This objective was reinforced by the General Assembly in resolution 47/176, in which it also requested the Secretary-General of the Conference to ensure the timely circulation of documentation for the regional conferences. In the same resolution, it requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations to take appropriate steps to ensure that the Conference and the issues to be discussed at it were widely publicized.

60. In resolution 48/186, the General Assembly emphasized the importance of immediate action in widely publicizing the objectives and issues of the Conference. In response to General Assembly resolutions 47/176 and 48/186, the Secretary-General of the Conference and the Conference secretariat have made information dissemination a priority and have endeavoured to ensure that all documentation and information on the Conference are widely disseminated. The Conference secretariat publishes a monthly newsletter in English, French and Spanish, with a circulation of 25,000 copies world wide. Other information activities undertaken include a poster, a Conference logo, buttons, a brochure, a video on the second session of the Preparatory Committee, press kits, special lectures and media seminars. Activities for 1994 include an international media

seminar on the eve of the Conference, a film, an additional briefing kit and an exhibit.

61. In the initial budget forecast for the Conference, US$ 400,000 was proposed for information activities for the biennium 1994-1995. As a consequence of budgetary constraints, the amount of $200,600 was approved by the General Assembly under section 24, Public information, for the biennium 1994-1995. The Conference secretariat must therefore rely upon UNFPA and extrabudgetary resources to fund some of the information activities for the Conference.

XI. FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS AND STATUS OF FUNDING FOR THE CONFERENCE

62. For the biennium 1992-1993, the General Assembly approved US$ 1,485,000 for the Conference from the United Nations regular budget. An additional US$ 558,400 for the same biennium was to be sought from extrabudgetary resources. For 1994, the General Assembly approved $674,300 for the Conference from the United Nations regular budget for staff costs, travel of experts and staff, communications, miscellaneous services and supplies. The costs of servicing the Conference will be met from the budget of the Office of Conference Services.

63. Three trust funds have been established for the Conference. The first, the Trust Fund for the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (the General Trust Fund), is used to support overall preparatory activities for the Conference. Austria, Denmark, France, the Netherlands (through UNFPA), Sweden and the United States of America have pledged or contributed a total of $1,464,769 to that Fund. In addition, India contributed locally towards the costs of the expert group meeting held at Bangalore.

64. The second trust fund, the Voluntary Fund for Supporting Developing Countries' Participation in the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development, was established to facilitate the participation of developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, in the Conference and its preparatory process. Austria, Finland, France, Spain and Sweden have pledged or contributed a total of US$ 663,080 to the Voluntary Fund.

65. The third fund, the UNFPA Trust Fund for the International Conference on Population and Development, was established to support national preparatory activities, public information and awareness-creation activities and other Conference-related activities. Thus far, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Finland, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Kingdom, the European Union, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, UNFPA and UNICEF have contributed or pledged a total of US$ 4,214,901 to this fund.

66. The Secretary-General of the Conference is continuing fund-raising efforts and expresses sincere appreciation to the Governments and organizations that have contributed to the three trust funds established for the Conference.